

Notes and Queries

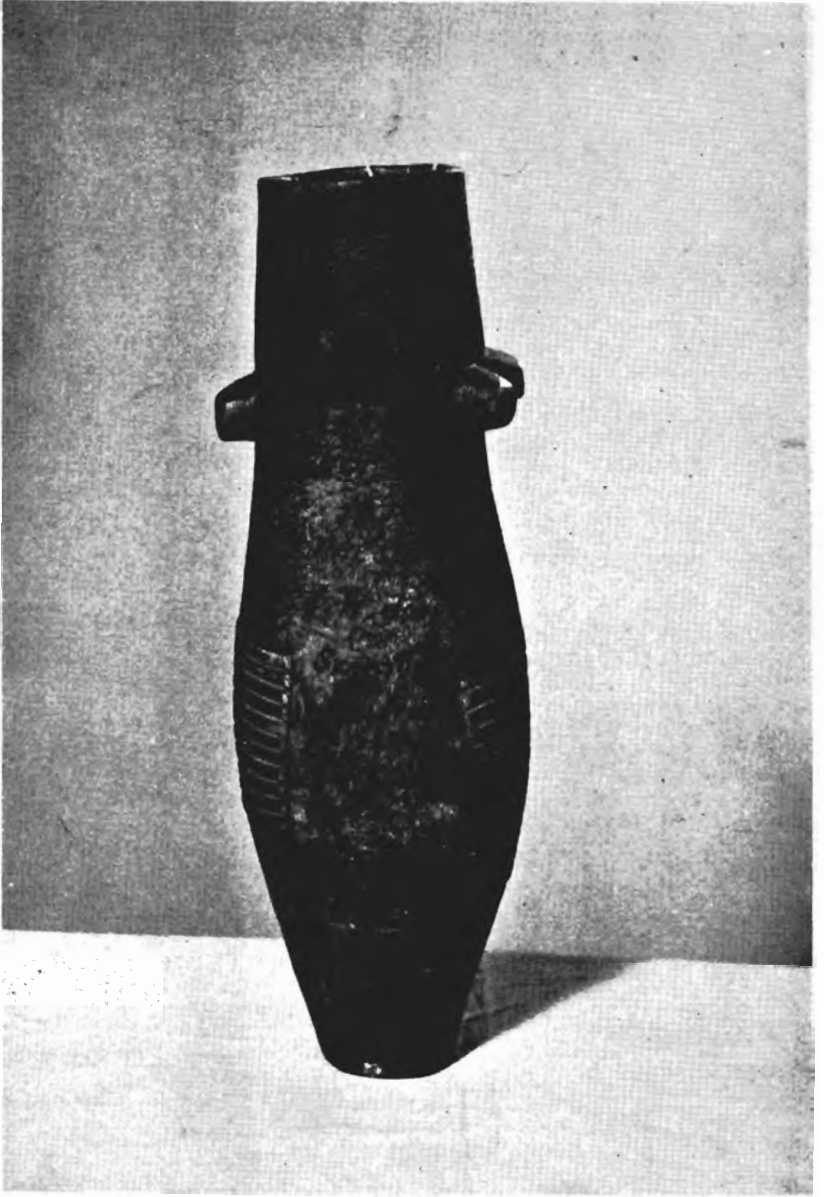
THE FOLLOWING query has been received from Major G. J. B. Egerton, D.L., Assistant Regimental Secretary to the Royal Regiment of Wales:

“I wonder if you can help me. The Brecon Museum has an object which is believed to have been found in the Kraal of King Cetewayo in 1879. I attach 4 photographs of this object which is hollow and has what looks like a piece of broom handle inside it which may or may not have been with it when it was found.”

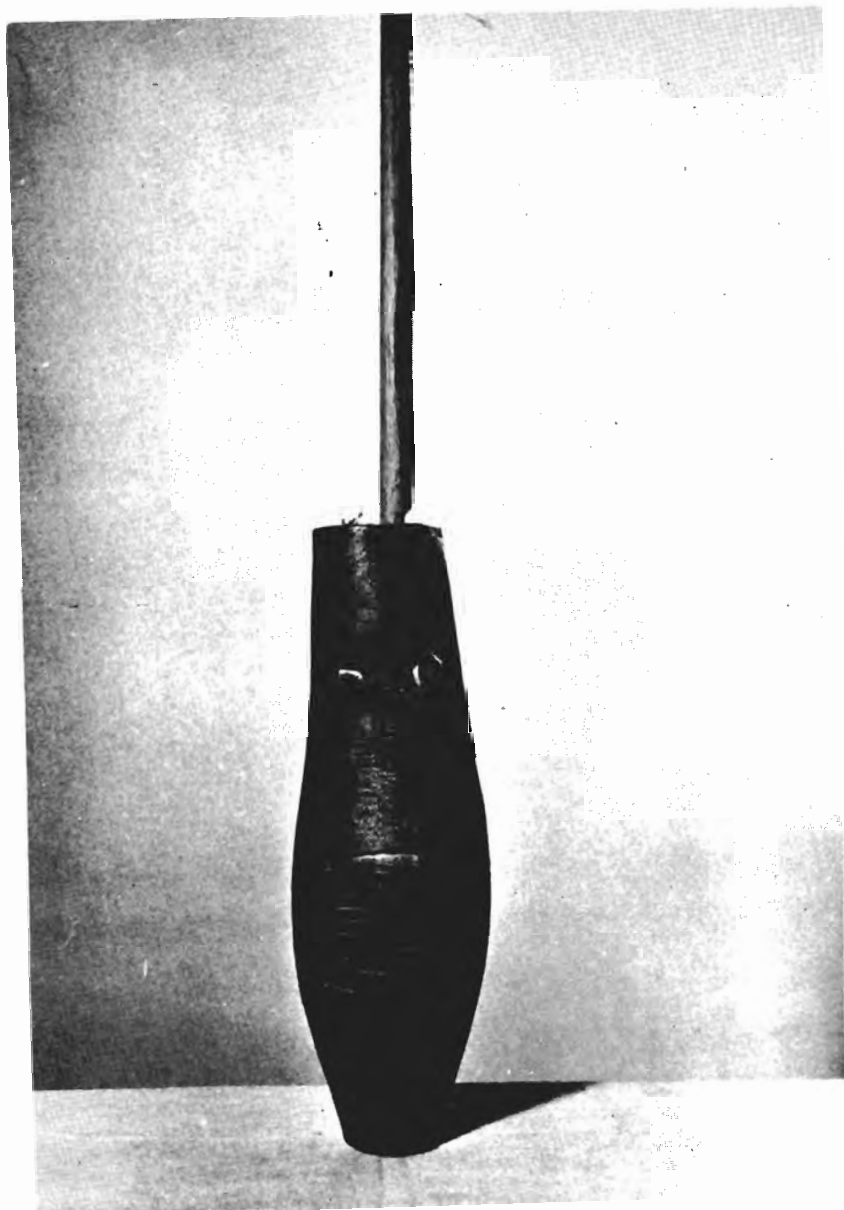
Two of the photographs sent by Major Egerton are reproduced here. Opinions solicited so far are that the object is *either* a mortar (Isigxusho) used for stamping grain and pulping foodstuffs *or* a milking pail (Ithunga). The chief proponent of the latter opinion argues that the stick in the mouth of the vessel is in fact extraneous and misleading in that it suggests a pestle and mortar. He also argues that the lugs on the sides of the vessel were not decorative, but functional, serving to secure the pail between the milker's knees.

Readers who can throw any light on the puzzle are asked to communicate their views to the editor in writing.

THE EDITOR WILL GLADLY RECEIVE NOTES OR QUERIES ON ANY TOPIC OF NATAL INTEREST.



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